

**Amendment to H.R. 2646, As Reported**

**Offered by Mr. Thune of South Dakota**

**(page and line numbers refer to the Amendment in the  
Nature of a Substitute (Combes.011))**

At the end, add the following (and make such technical and conforming changes as may be appropriate):

1 **SEC. 932. INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON AGRICULTURAL**  
2 **COMPETITION.**

3 (a) APPOINTMENT.—Not later than 90 days after the  
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Agri-  
5 culture shall establish an Interagency Task Force on Agri-  
6 cultural Competition (in this section referred to as the  
7 “Task Force”) and, after consultation with the Attorney  
8 General, shall appoint as members of the Task Force such  
9 employees of the Department of Agriculture and the De-  
10 partment of Justice as the Secretary considers to be ap-  
11 propriate. The Secretary shall designate 1 member of the  
12 Task Force to serve as chairperson of the Task Force.

13 (b) HEARINGS.—The Task Force shall conduct hear-  
14 ings to review the lessening of competition among pur-  
15 chasers of livestock, poultry, and unprocessed agricultural  
16 commodities in the United States and shall include in such  
17 hearings review of the following matters:

1           (1) The enforcement of particular Federal laws  
2 relating to competition.

3           (2) The concentration and vertical integration  
4 of the business operations of such purchasers.

5           (3) Discrimination and transparency in prices  
6 paid by such purchasers to producers of livestock,  
7 poultry, and unprocessed agricultural commodities in  
8 the United States.

9           (4) The economic protection and bargaining  
10 rights of producers who raise livestock and poultry  
11 under contracts.

12           (5) Marketing innovations and alternatives  
13 available to producers of livestock, poultry, and un-  
14 processed agricultural commodities in the United  
15 States.

16       (c) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the last  
17 member of the Task Force is appointed, the Task Force  
18 shall submit, to the Committee on Agriculture of the  
19 House of Representatives and the Committee on Agri-  
20 culture, Nutrition, and Forestry of the Senate, a report  
21 containing the findings and recommendations of the Task  
22 Force for appropriate administrative and legislative ac-  
23 tion.